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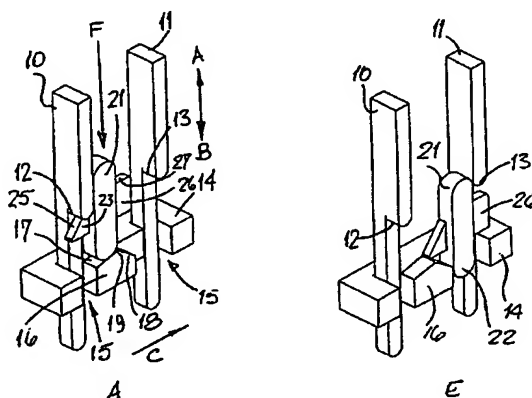
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(54) Title: **LATCHING BLOCKING MECHANISMS AND SAFETY MEDICAL NEEDLE ASSEMBLIES**



(57) Abstract: A latching blocking mechanism includes a static component (10,50), a movable component (14,52) slidable relative to the static component and a control member (21,58) arranged to slide with the movable component (14,52) but displaceable transversely or rotationally with respect to the movable component. After the control member (21,58) has moved from a first position through a pre-determined distance towards a second position, a spring (F,60) becomes active to urge the control member to its second position. Sliding movement of the movable component (14,52) displaces the control member (21,58) in the sliding direction to interengage respective camming parts (12,25) on the static component (10,50) and control member (21,58) thereby to displace the control member transversely through said pre-determined distance. Return of the movable component (14,52) to its initial position allows the control member (21,58) to move to its second position under the action of the spring (F,60) thereafter to block movement of the movable component away from its initial position.

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